



Department of State

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AN: D730146-0170

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ACTION: EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 TRSE-00

SCI-06 SCEM-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 1 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /146 W
068167

R 210908Z DEC 73
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8901
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY *dy*

DATE 12/12/82

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. RELATION(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☒

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENT ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, JA, LY
SUBJECT: LIBYAN OIL SALE
REF: TOKYO 16314

1. DECEMBER 21 JAPANESE PRESS REPORTS THAT TWO JAPANESE FIRMS, C. ITOH AND SUMITOMO CORP., WERE AMONG THOSE THAT SUBMITTED BIDS ON DECEMBER 19 LIBYAN OIL TENDER. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, FIRMS WERE INITIALLY RELUCTANT, BUT DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN BIDDING AS RESULT OF GOJ POLICY OF IMPLICIT APPROVAL (SEE REFTTEL).

2. MITI OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF DECEMBER 21 THAT HE KNEW OF FOUR MAJOR-JAPANESE TRADING FIRMS AND ONE SMALLER FIRM THAT HAD ENTERED BIDS (HE DECLINED TO DISCLOSE NAMES). HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT COMPANIES INVOLVED HAD TOLD HIM THAT THEY BELIEVED THEY COULD DISTINGUISH HOT-OIL BASED ON PORT OF EXPORT AND TYPE OF CRUDE, AND HAD STRUCTURED THEIR BIDS TO AVOID PURCHASE OF SUCH OIL.

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OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGED THAT OTHER FIRMS, UNKNOWN TO MITI, MIGHT HAVE CONSCIOUSLY BID FOR HOT OIL, AND IF THIS WAS CASE THERE WAS REALLY NOTHING GOJ COULD DO ABOUT IT.

3. THUS FAR MITI UNAWARE OF RESULTS OF BIDDING.
SHOESMITH

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